

VA101-13-R-0025, RFI RESPONSES			
Question No.	Reference (Sect/Para/Page)	QUESTION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
1	general question	Where do new fire alarm and security lines connect back to the hospital?	Specific design to interface with the existing fire alarm and security systems shall be coordinated by the D/B contractor during design.
2	Basis of Design, page 26 of 27	CPM scheduling – requires building a new roadway while keeping the existing roadway in service? Is it your intent to require the existing drive remain fully open while the new drive section is being constructed, or can the campus utilize the main entrance for that time duration?	The existing drive shall remain open while the new drive section is being constructed.
3	Basis of Design, page 14 of 27	It states the need to maintain 8'-2" vertical clearance at all levels and then states that 7'-8" clearance is acceptable above the 3rd level. The bridging drawings illustrate a vertical clearance of 7'-10 3/16" on all levels. Please clarify and confirm what is the minimum vertical clearance required per level.	Maintain 8'-2" clear height. The Building cross section indicates it is possible to maintain the 10'-8" floor to floor height and the 8'-2" clear. Based on the need to slope the slabs to drain.
4	Basis of Design, page 25 of 27	It identifies a desire for a fire alarm system that is not normally required by governing codes. Is this a specific requirement of the VA for this garage?	It is recognized that NFPA 88A does not require a fire alarm system for open air garages, although to be compliant with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS) for Federal Facilities and to be consistent with best practice in a federal facility, this added level of safety and security is warranted.
5	Basis of Design, page 18 of 27	The slab on grade is identified as asphalt, can the ground floor level be concrete in lieu of asphalt to avoid long term maintenance concerns?	Yes.
6	Basis of Design, page 23 of 27	Plumbing – requires that all storm water shall discharge through an oil separation tank. The top level of a garage functions as a roof and will therefore have to handle a substantial amount of rain water. To discharge this much water through an oil separation tank could be prohibitive due to the size of the tank required to handle this volume of water at the anticipated flow rates that might occur in a typical storm event. On previous garages for the VA we have directed storm water from the top level directly to the storm water treatment facilities and levels below were piped separately to a oil separation tank realizing that the majority of water run off on these levels will occur during routine maintenance wash down of these levels. Would this separation of discharge be an acceptable approach on this project or do all teams need to design and size an oil separation tank to handle the anticipated storm load of the top level?	This level of separation would be acceptable. Coordinate with the plumbing code and VA Criteria.
7	Environmental Report, page 11, 2.5.5	Power makes reference to emergency power for the garage. Will emergency power be available from the campus grid to support one accessible elevator, required when 4 stories or more, or should D/B team provide a standalone emergency generator within the garage?	The garage is not four or more stories <u>above or below a level of exit discharge</u> , therefore the ICC (2012) does not require an elevator be supported by emergency power.
8	Section 00 11 21 RFP page 86 of 101	This topic requires 1 full day of submittal review for each discipline for each submittal package. This appears excessive. Would a half day for each of the following groups of disciplines (civil/landscape, structural/architectural and MEP/FP/Telecom) be acceptable?	One full day is required as stated in Section 00 11 21.

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9	Section 00 11 21 page 87 of 101	This makes reference to specifications being furnished in Microsoft Word 7.0 and drawings in AutoCad version 2000. These are both extremely old file formats considering the release date of these software versions and we would be concerned with the integrity of our documentation conversion back to these software versions. Will delivery of design documents in more current versions of these software applications be acceptable?	
10	Section 00 11 21 page 89 of 101, H., 3.	It is stated that D/B teams are required to consider all requirements including zoning laws, and laws relating to landscape, open space, minimum distance from property lines, maximum heights, historic preservation and esthetic qualities of a building. This solicitation includes well developed bridging documents from which the D/B Team is instructed not to deviate. These are unusual requirements for a project developed on federal land. Could we not assume that all local zoning issues have been addressed by the bridging documents and that we only need to address local involvement if major modifications are made in the final design?	VA does not anticipate contractor needing to coordinate with local city authority for zoning issues.
11	Section 00 11 21 page 89 of 101. H. 4	It requires D/B Team to consult with and submit plans to appropriate officials of the State and political subdivision. This again is not customary practice for projects on federal property therefore we ask that you be more specific regarding which agencies and officials should be consulted by the D/B Team.	VA does not anticipate contractor needing to coordinate with local State or city authority for approval of plans.
12	general question	Will the VA require a review of the garage to allow for SCI spaces (spinal cord patient handicapped spaces)?	VA
13	general question	Are we to assume local City, County, State building permits are not required?	Local building permits are not required.
14	Basis of Design, Page 9&13 of 27	Please clarify the exact location, style, and extent for sidewalks and lighting at the extended sidewalks to tie the garage back to existing elements.	New sidewalks located within the project limits are shown on the Architectural Site Plan, sheet AS 0100, and Civil Drawings CG102. The design intent is that a sidewalk will run along the entry drive, shuttle stop north of the proposed garage and plaza area at the north garage entrance. Sidewalks to match existing. Exterior lighting locations and requirements are defined in the Basis of Design Narrative (pages 13 and 24 of 27), Physical Security Design Manual and Electrical Design Manual.
15	Basis of Design, page 25 of 27	Please specify the extent of Code Blue call station features, I.E. siren and/or light alert only, ½ duplex 1-way voice, full duplex voice, or voice and video.	Refer to the Physical Security Design Manual for VA Facilities
16	Basis of Design, page 16 of 27	Please clarify type of penetrating concrete sealer, is this a clear sealer, colored stain and sealer, or other. Please clarify the full extent of sealer location, typically a sealer would only be utilized on exposed horizontal surfaces at the upper floor, directly open to the elements.	This is a clear sealer on the horizontal concrete surfaces that form the parking deck and ramps on all levels including the concrete washes.
17	general question	Design Documents indicate 10'8" floor to floor height and requires 8'2" clear height at all drive isles. The drawings also indicate a 32" deep inverted Tee beam. When applying this beam depth the clear height is 8'0" (10'8" – 2'8" = 8'0"). Please clarify your intent related to clear height per floor level	Maintain 8'-2" clear height. The Building cross section indicates it is possible to maintain the 10'-8" floor to floor height and the 8'-2" clear. Based on the need to slope the slabs to drain.
18	general question	Related to item #17, which floor is required to be handicapped van accessible? You indicate H/C parking on multiple levels, depending on the answer to item #16, this may or may not be possible as van accessible parking requires a minimum of 8'2" clear height.	HC Van Parking can on all levels based on the 8'-2" clearance, it is the design builders option to place all the van parking on 1 level if you choose to.

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19	general question	The drawings do not indicate any poured washes; which are normally used on factory topped precast systems to install diaphragm reinforcement, is the intent for this to be a "dry" system?	The design builder of record is responsible for the design details, meeting industry standards, state and local code requirements, and VA criteria. Provide the pour wash which is typical of this construction type.
20	general question	As related to item #19, using a field poured wash over an inverted Tee Beam system you only have 7'9" clear floor to floor height unless heights are to be adjusted. Please clarify.	The wash which should be provided and designed by the design builder occurs at the perimeter and does not affect the clear height requirement, the design builder will have to maintain code required guardrail height at concrete wash.
21	general question	Exterior columns are shown as 24" x 24" and the elevations do not indicate any corbels. What is the intention for connecting the spandrel panels to the columns?	The design builder of record is responsible for the design details, meeting industry standards, state and local code requirements, and VA criteria. The intent is that the thin veneer have return corners and that the line of the return corner is consistent even where the spandrel engages. How the spandrel is attached to the column out of view from the exterior is a design build detailing issue. Connections should not interfere with drainage functions or parking functions.
22	Basis of Design page 23 of 27	Indicates that a class 1 dry standpipe is required, while 2.6.2 of Environmental Assessment indicates that parking structure will be non-sprinkled with a class II dry standpipe. Please confirm that the dry standpipe system is to be a manual system.	Provide a dry standpipe with Class I standpipes, as noted in the Basis of Design Narrative, page 23 of 27.
23	General reference to project	<u>Would the VA entertain an alternative layout solution within the same location if it resulted in less cost and therefore a better value to the Government? If acceptable, can alternative design drawings be provided for consideration along with a price proposal as the Design/Builder's offer?</u>	The final design package is the responsibility of the Designer of Record as indicated in the BOD. Alternative layouts are not discouraged by the VA, but will be evaluated and possibly approved by the VA after award of contract. Contractor should not submit detailed design drawings along with contractor's bid proposal.
24	General reference to project	On previous VA garage proposals we have prepared, the identified VA physical Security requirements for blast protection and progressive collapse have been waived when the garage is a standalone facility as this project is. <u>Will these requirements therefore be waived for this garage?</u>	Blast protection and progressive collapse are not required.
25	General reference to project	<u>Will companies and/or individuals or sub-consultant companies and/or individuals, who worked for the VA to create the bridging documents be exempt from participating on teams responding to the solicitation request?</u>	Yes
26	Reference to drawing files	The Index of the RFP Drawings makes reference to the following sheet numbers, however, these sheets are missing from drawing set. <u>Can you please issue these sheets?</u> A0301 North Elevations A0302 West Elevations A0303 South Elevations A0304 East Elevation & Longitude Section	Drawings provided in Amendment A00001.

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27	General reference to project	We have reviewed the project bridging documents. We believe we can provide value to the VA through adjustments to the current design. Assuming we maintain parking counts and general project form, function, and aesthetics: <u>Can a team apply their knowledge of parking garage design through design adjustments of the project?</u>	The final design package is the responsibility of the Designer of Record as indicated in the BOD. Alternative layouts are not discouraged by the VA, but will be evaluated and possibly approved by the VA after award of contract. Contractor should not submit design drawings along with contractor's bid proposal.
28	General reference to project	If question #2 is accepted, <u>what level of drawings, if any will be required by a team making changes to the general design as part of their Phase II submittal?</u>	The final design package is the responsibility of the Designer of Record as indicated in the BOD. Alternative layouts are not discouraged by the VA, but will be evaluated and possibly approved by the VA after award of contract. Contractor should not submit design drawings along with contractor's bid proposal.
29	RFP issued Drawing/site visit	Construction limit lines are not shown on the plans. How much real estate do we have available for parking, lay down and trailers?	There is very limited space available on campus for employees, patients and their visitors. There will be no parking available for contractor/subcontractor employees unless space can be allocated within the construction boundary for that purpose. The laydown area is limited to the area adjacent to the employee parking lot, adjacent to building 4. The contractor will most likely need to lease parking and bus employees to the construction site.
30	RFP issued Drawing/site visit	Is there power available or do we have to contact the utility and have temp service brought in?	Assume this question is in regards to temp construction power. This will need to be coordinated with the facility during design/construction.
31	RFP issued Drawing/site visit	Where can workers park? We assume everyone has to park offsite except Super but please advise.	There is very limited space available on campus for employees, patients and their visitors. There will be no parking available for contractor/subcontractor employees unless space can be allocated within the construction boundary for that purpose. The laydown area is limited to the area adjacent to the employee parking lot, adjacent to building 4. The contractor will most likely need to lease parking and bus employees to the construction site.
32		Will domestic water service be required for the parking garage? If so, will it need to be metered separately?	A domestic water service is required. Water metering shall be coordinated with the water metering requirements of the Station.
33	Section 01 00 00, Paragraph 1.17 Resident Engineer's Field Office	Will the Resident Engineer's on site requirement the large Field Office per Section 01 00 00, paragraph 1.17? This seems like a large trailer and costly office/associated equipment for a project of this magnitude. Please advise.	RE field office is required, but the size of 1440 sqft indicated in spec 01 00 00, Para 1.17 B is reduced to not less than // 67 square meters (720 gross square feet) and within a single unit. For location see sheet AS0100. RE trailer shall be placed such that RE has direct and clear visibility of the construction site.
34		Is the "manhole" referenced on Page 23 of 27 in the Basis of Design actually a manhole or a vault?	The D/B contractor shall field verify manhole dimensions/construction.
35		Are the existing medium voltage cables looped around the interior of the existing manhole (or vault), or are the cables pulled straight through?	The D/B contractor shall field verify installation method of existing medium voltage cables.
36		Are encapsulated (non-separable) splice connectors acceptable for the "tap" of the existing feeder?	The D/B contractor shall design acceptable splice/tap method.

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37		If separable connectors are required at the "tap" for the medium voltage circuit, will an electrical vault need to be provided to meet the requirements of NFPA 70E, or does the Government use molded vacuum switches in the underground enclosure for load-break?	The D/B contractor shall design acceptable splice/tap method. To develop the basis of design it was assumed that an additional vault will not be required.
38		Is it acceptable to de-energize the affected part of the existing medium voltage circuit for the duration of time required to construct the new electrical vault and or tap the existing conductors?	The D/B contractor shall coordinate outages with the owner.
39	Section 00-11-21; Paragraph A5 - B.1.a Selection Criteria and Weightings; Page 76 and 77 of 101	In the Corporate Project Experience section it states that Offerors should include projects completed within the last seven (7) years. Later on in that same paragraph it states that Offerors should submit projects completed within the last five (5) years. Please confirm if Offerors are to submit projects completed within the last five (5) years or seven (7) years.	Offerors are to submit projects completed within the last seven (7) years.
40	Section 00-11-21; C3. Price Proposal Requirements; Paragraph A; Page 81 of 101	In Section C3. Price Proposal Requirements; Paragraph A, nothing is mentioned of putting the Price Proposal on a CD. However, in other places of the RFP it mentions putting the Technical Proposal and Price Proposal on a CD. Please confirm if a CD is required for the Price Proposal.	A CD is required for both the price and technical proposals.
41	Section 00-11-21; C Part III - Proposal Requirements; Paragraph C.4 Technical Proposal Requirements; C-Technical/Management Approach; Page 83-101	In Section C-Technical/Management Approach, Paragraph 3 - Project Organizational Chart and Narrative, it states that Offeror's are to provide a list of all proposed major Subcontractors, including telephone numbers, address, and name of contact. It is unclear as to how many Subcontractors we may submit in each key division. Because we receive proposals from multiple subcontractors in every division, it is virtually impossible to predict which subcontractor will offer the BEST price and MOST complete scope of work at the time of bid. Being able to list a few subcontractor names in those key divisions will help the Offerors to select the most competitive and complete scope of work for our major subcontractors. Please confirm if it's acceptable to list multiple subcontractors in each key division in their proposal.	Not acceptable to list multiple subcontractors in each key division.
42	Section 00-11-21; C Part III - Proposal Requirements; Paragraph C.4 Technical Proposal Requirements; C-Technical/Management Approach; Page 83-101	In Section C-Technical/Management Approach, Paragraph 3 - Project Organizational Chart and Narrative, it states that Offeror's are to provide a list of all proposed major Subcontractors, including telephone numbers, address, and name of contact. Considering the requirement of submitting the Technical Proposal on a CD, it is virtually impossible to predict all major Subcontractors who will bid the project and who will offer the best price and most complete scope of work at the time of bid. Many subcontractors (particularly those with the most competitive pricing) hold their prices until just a few minutes before the bid is due. To require the proposed major Subcontractors to be listed in our Proposal, which has to be burned to a CD, will not allow the Offerors the ability to use the best (most competitive) Subcontractor bids. Meeting this requirement (on proposal due day) will not be in the best interest of the Government. If this information is absolutely necessary, please consider allowing the list of major subcontractors to be submitted by all Offerors 24 hours after the initial proposal is to be received by the Government.	List of major Subcontractors shall be submitted at time of proposal submission which has been extended to June 6, 2013.

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43	Page 77 of 101 - Section 00 11 21	Corporate Project Experience - The basis of evaluation will include the Offeror's experience or Offeror's team experience, where allowed.. QUESTION: Where can the offeror's team experience to be utilized if allowed? Please clarify the "where allowed" statement.	The Offeror's Team experience, where allowed, is defined as the experience of the prime legal entity proposing on the solicitation and is registered on SAM, VetBiz, and maintains a valid DUNS number. A teaming arrangement that does NOT constitute a partnership or joint venture does NOT create a separate legal entity. A contractor team that consists of a prime contractor and subcontractors must submit an offer and experience in the name of the SDVOSB as the prime.
44	Page 81 of 101 - Section 00 11 21	Technical Proposal Requirements - A1a - The Offeror shall demonstrate corporate experience...QUESTION: Will the VA allow garage experience from a prime-subcontractor (Large Construction Firm) to the SDVOSB firm? Few if any SDVOSB firms have the necessary "garage" experience, but have ample construction management experience on varieties of different construction projects.	The Offeror's Team experience, where allowed, is defined as the experience of the prime legal entity proposing on the solicitation and is registered on SAM, VetBiz, and maintains a valid DUNS number. A teaming arrangement that does NOT constitute a partnership or joint venture does NOT create a separate legal entity. A contractor team that consists of a prime contractor and subcontractors must submit an offer and experience in the name of the SDVOSB as the prime.
45	QC Requirements	What are the Quality Control personnel requirements for this project?	Project personnel experience is described in Section 00 11 21, C4b.1) a) through i).
46	RFP page 80 of 101	Just to clarify, the Offeror is to submit an original and five (5) copies plus a CD for the Technical Proposal and an original and five (5) copies plus a CD for the Price Proposal?	Yes, Offeror is to submit an original and five (5) copies plus a CD for both the Technical and Price Proposals. Price and Technical must be submitted separately from each other (on CDs and in binders).
47	RFP page 80 of 101	Is the Technical Proposal and the Price Proposal to be submitted on the same CD copy or submitted on two (2) separate CDs?	Yes, Offeror is to submit an original and five (5) copies plus a CD for both the Technical and Price Proposals. Price and Technical must be submitted separately from each other (on CDs and in binders).
48	RFP page 81 of 101	It is stated, "The technical proposal shall be divided into three sections: (A) Past Performance, (B) Construction Management, and (C Schedule." Should this be the layout used for the tabs within the Technical Proposal? For example, Tab A is Past Performance, Tab B is Construction Management and Tab C is Schedule.	Yes, please use tabs to divide technical proposal sections.
49	Past Performance (pg 84 of 101)	Is there anything that needs to be submitted within the Past Performance section of the Proposal? It only shows a requirement for the Government evaluation panel to contact our previous clients included within the Corporate Project Experience section.	No additional information is required Past Performance (Client Satisfaction).
50	RFP page 80 of 101	Since we will be hand writing in our bid for this proposal, it will be very difficult for us to include our bid amount in the 1 CD required to be submitted for the Price Proposal and still have the proposal turned in on time. Would it be acceptable to submit the 1 CD copy without the bid amount included as long as the bid amount is written in the hard copy binder of our Price Proposal?	A CD is required for both the price and technical proposals.
51	RFP page 81 of 101	For the Corporate Project Experience section, are we to only submit the General Contractor Reference Form for each project? OR are we to submit the General Contractor Reference Form and the information requested in line items 1-6 in paragraph C4.A.1.a for each project? The line items in paragraph C4.A.1.a and the General Contractor Reference Form ask for the same information so it would be redundant to provide both. Please confirm that we are to ONLY submit the General Contractor Reference Form for each project.	Provide responses to items in paragraph C4.A.1. and the General Contractor Reference Form.

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52		For our corporate project experience, on the projects submitted that are design/bid/build, are we to provide the "Project Design Architect and Engineers and name and telephone number of contact person(s)"? Or will this information only need to be provided for our design/build projects submitted?	Any entity that was a part of the project team and that you determine will be helpful for VA evaluation purposes, should be provided.
53	RFP	Is there any Federal, State or City Licensing required for subcontractors working for the prime contractor on this project?	See Page 3 of the Basis of Design, General Requirements and Applicable Codes and Standards Sections
54	RFP	Is there any Federal, State or City Licensing required for the prime contractor on this project?	See Page 3 of the Basis of Design, General Requirements and Applicable Codes and Standards Sections
55	RFP	Is the project Tax Exempt? Please confirm.	In accordance with Arkansas tax law, project is not tax exempt
56	Section 01-00-00, 1.4 Construction Security Requirements Paragraph C. Page 53 of 101	It states in Paragraph C that The General Contractor shall provide unarmed guards at the project site if directed by the Resident Engineer. If required, this represents a significant cost to the project which must be considered during this proposal phase. Please confirm if unarmed guards be required or will not be required for this project.	Unarmed guards not required by VA
57	Section 01-00-00, 1.4 Construction Security Requirements Paragraph C. Page 53 of 101	Paragraph C states that The General Contractor shall provide unarmed guards at the project site if directed by the Resident Engineer. If unarmed guards are required, what time period(s) will they be required to work (overnight, weekends, at all non-work times, etc)? Please provide direction on the necessity and time frame for unarmed guards.	Unarmed guards not required by VA
58	Section 01-00-00, 1.4 Construction Security Requirements Paragraph E. Page 53 of 101	In paragraph E it states Certain documents, sketches, videos or photographs and drawings may be marked "Law Enforcement Sensitive" or "Sensitive Unclassified". Who will determine whether or not the construction documents are classified as "Law Enforcement Classified" or "Sensitive Unclassified"?	Contractor Officer or their representative
59	Section 01-00-00, 1.6 Operations and Storage Area Paragraph E. Page 56 of 101	In paragraph 1.6 Operations and Storage Areas it states that the contractor shall confine all operations (including storage of materials) on Government Premises to areas authorized or approved by the Contracting Officer." Please identify the location to be approved for staging.	It is limited to the area adjacent to the employee parking lot at building 4. The contractor may not block any parking spaces, nor may their employees park in that lot.
60	Section 01-00-00, 1.17 Resident Engineer's Field Office Page 62 of 101	The RFP states the Resident Engineer's (RE) field office is to be provided where shown on drawings; however, it is not shown anywhere on the drawings. Therefore, please confirm if a RE Field Office is required (or if it is not required) on this project? If it is required, where will it be located (please be specific...it is a cost item)?	RE field office is required, but the size of 1440 sqft indicated in spec 01 00 00, Para 1.17 B is reduced to not less than // 67 square meters (720 gross square feet) and within a single unit. For location see sheet AS0100. RE trailer shall be placed such that RE has direct and clear visibility of the construction site.
61	Section 01-00-00, 1.17 Resident Engineer's Field Office Page 62 of 101	Paragraph 1.17 requires for the Design-Builder to provide a single office of 1,440 gross square feet and equip it with all new (not used) furnishings, centralized heat & air system, relative humidity control, new (not used) office equipment; utilities, janitorial service, etc, etc. These requirements represents a significant cost item to the project...all to be removed at the end of the project. A single unit space of 1,440 gross square feet represent an area 2 to 3 times the size of a normal Resident Engineer's (RE) office. Please confirm this paragraph (as written) accurately confirms the requirements for the RE's field office. And if so...where will it be located? A location is not stated or shown on the site that will allow an RE's field office of this size to be constructed / located.	RE field office is required, but the size of 1440 sqft indicated in spec 01 00 00, Para 1.17 B is reduced to not less than // 67 square meters (720 gross square feet) and within a single unit. For location see sheet AS0100. RE trailer shall be placed such that RE has direct and clear visibility of the construction site.
62	Section 00-11-21; C Part III - Proposal Requirements	Please confirm if a Quality Control Manager is required on this project. If so, what are the minimum qualifications for this position?	Project personnel experience is described in Section 00 11 21, C4b.1) a) through i).

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63	Section 00-11-21; C Part III - Proposal Requirements	<p>Please confirm if Offerors will be allowed to amend their Bid Schedule, via email and/or facsimile, prior to 1:00 pm (CT) on May 29, 2013.</p> <p>By doing so, will allow Offerors to send both the Technical Proposal and Price Proposal to the VA the day before (May 28th), which allows enough time for overnight delivery. Offerors obviously would have their Bid Schedule already completed in the delivered Price Proposal; however, if the Offeror chose to do so, they could amend their Bid Schedule with "up-to-date" pricing. The Offeror would still be 100% responsible for sending/confirming the VA received their amended Bid Schedule before 1:00 pm (CT) on May 29, 2013. If for some reason the VA did not received the amended Bid Schedule (via email or fax), before the 1:00 pm deadline, the VA would still have the completed Bid Schedule that was originally delivered the day before.</p> <p>By allowing the Offeror to amend their Bid Schedule, via email and/or fax, benefits the VA because the Offeror usually receives their most competitive subcontractor bids only a few moments before bid time. Therefore, the Offeror is able to provide the VA their best price. Also, this alleviates the need for Offerors to spend unnecessary funds on airline expenses, car rental expenses and possibly hotel expenses. Please advise if this procedure is acceptable to the VA.</p>	This amendment extends the proposal due date to June 6, 2013.
64	Section 01-00-00, 1.1 General Intention; Paragraph F. Page 51 of 101	Can the Project Superintendent also serve as the OSHA certified "competent person" ... or is this a separate individual?	Yes, the Project Superintendent can also serve as the OSHA certified "competent person" with minimum of 30 hours of OSHA training.
65	A5.B.1.a / pg 76 & pg 77	The government is requesting relevant past performance completed in the last seven (7) years in the fourth sentence of this paragraph and past performance completed in the last five (5) years in the second sentence on page 77. Additionally on page 81, section C4.A.1.a the government is requesting projects completed in the last five (5) years. Can the government clarify which is correct?	Offerors are to submit projects completed within the last seven (7) years.
66	N/A	It appears VA Fayetteville has posted Solicitation No: VA25613-R-0680, titled "Provide Access to PC from Loop Road 564-13-104". Will that project impact the Parking Garage Project (i.e. traffic access, pedestrian access)? If so, can those impacts be provided?	This project should have no impact to parking garage project. It should be complete prior to breaking ground for the garage, if not the only impact would be sharing the road with trucks, which will also have to be done for all delivery vehicles.
67	00 11 21/C4/pg 81	May an offeror submit subcontractor past performance to satisfy the requirements of Construction Project Experience & Past Performance (Client Satisfaction)? If so, is a teaming agreement necessary between the two firms and must this teaming agreement be included in the proposal?	The Offeror's Team experience, where allowed, is defined as the experience of the prime legal entity proposing on the solicitation and is registered on SAM, VetBiz, and maintains a valid DUNS number. A teaming arrangement that does NOT constitute a partnership or joint venture does NOT create a separate legal entity. A contractor team that consists of a prime contractor and subcontractors must submit an offer and experience in the name of the SDVOSB as the prime.
68	general design note/comment	There was a recent RFI answer provided on the Dallas VAMC garage which stated "blast resistance was not necessary" It was RFI question #29 posted on May 13. Please verify the same standard not requiring blast protection and progressive collapse measures is also not required for this similar stand alone garage.	Final design must meet the intent of the BOD and blast resistance is not required for this project.

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69	Basis of Design; page 30 of 198 - Telecom System	It states we must rough in power for parking gates. Please provide information stating each area intended to receive a parking gate and rough in requirements.	Parking gates are shown on the architectural drawings. Rough-in requirements will need to be coordinated by the D/B contractor.
70	Basis of Design; page 30 of 198 - security	It states we must provide closed circuit television monitoring at specific locations. 1. Please provide specifications on the required equipment. 2. please provide a method to tie this equipment back to the hospital security departments i.e. hardwired, IP address, or other 3. if hardwired connections are required, please provide a specific location on a vicinity map indicating the tie in point on the campus	Refer to the Physical Security Design Manual for VA Facilities
71	general design note/comment	Please clarify that each team is to independently verify the geotechnical information against the suggested foundation design contained in the bridging document package. Then apply this information to their own specific design and pricing package to provide the VA with a reliable foundation design and pricing package in order to reduce change orders related to foundation designs.	Correct, see tab 5 geotech report, page 9 section 4.0 future geotechnical exploration.
72	Drawings	It appears that the soil stockpile is not reflected on the topography/drawings provided, can the volume of the stockpile be provided for earthwork calculations?	Exact volume has not been calculated, however additional site drawings will be issued in a subsequent amendment for your information. And it is up to the contractor to verify and be responsible for existing conditions as indicated in the BOD.
73	Drawings	Can the size of the shuttle-bus be provided?	The shuttles currently are 20 passenger vehicles.
74	Drawings	On the site visit, there were many surface utilities apparent that were not shown on the drawings. Will those utilities be provided?	A subsequent amendment will provide additional know information, however see civil drawings CD-101, general note.
75	Drawings	Can additional information be provided for the existing steam line and associated vault/structures (i.e. size, pressure, depth, encased/duct bank)	8" medium press steam, 3" drip return, 4" vacuum return. These sizes should be verified, plus depth and encasement will have to be determined by the contract designers. Depth is probably 5 feet.
76	Drawings	Can additional information be provided for the existing electric and telecommunications and associated vault/structures (i.e. depth, encased/duct bank)	The minimum depth for both electric and telecommunications is 28". The electric is in a concrete encased duct bank. The telecommunications cables are in schedule 80 PVC conduits.
77	Drawings	Invert information is not provided for all storm and sanitary structures, can that information be provided?	No this will have to gathered data by the contracted designers.
78	Basis of design/Electrical/24 of 27	Please provide information on the type of electrical meter required for this site to be compatible with the existing metering systems.	The D/B contractor will need to spec a compatible metering system.
79	Basis of design/Electrical/24 of 27	What portion of the communications systems is required to be on battery backup? And how long of a backup is required?	Refer to the Physical Security Design Manual for VA Facilities
80	Basis of design/Electrical/24 of 27	Should the battery backup for the communications systems be provided via a UPS?	Refer to the Physical Security Design Manual for VA Facilities
81	Basis of design/Telecommunication System/25 of 27	What outside cables shall be extended from the manhole to the new facility (25 pair copper, 12 strand SMF)?	The D/B contractor shall coordinate final copper and fiber requirements with the facility. Refer to Chapter 7 in the VA Electrical Design Manual for additional requirements.
82	Basis of design/Security/25 of 27	Is the monitoring of the CCTV to be done offsite?	Refer to the Physical Security Design Manual for VA Facilities
83	Basis of design/Security/25 of 27	Does the CCTV system require a DVR? If yes, how much recording time is required?	The D/B contractor shall determine need for additional DVR requirements during design.

VA101-13-R-0025, RFI RESPONSES			
Question No.	Reference (Sect/Para/Page)	QUESTION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
84	Basis of Design, 4/19/2013 pages 2 and 14 of 27	Who is the manufacturer of the thin brick and what is the color and finish? Is it a true thin brick and not a brick that is only available in full bricks that need to be cut? If it is a true thin brick, do they have both a short and long face corner brick along with a double long face corner brick to comply with the RFP?	The intent is that the brick be thin brick and that it match as close as possible the brick of the clinic addition which is.
85	Basis of Design, Page 18 of 27 "Precast Concrete Structure"	Is it an option to use an "untopped" double tee with a field applied topping?	Yes. All diversions from basis of design should be identified on bid form with and explanation as to the reason for the divergence and the benefit to the owner.
86	Detail 1 on sheet A0410	What are the physical dimensions of the precast concrete fins? Detail 1 on sheet A0410 shows 2'-4", but what is the thickness and what is the projection dimension out from the face of column?	If the fin is 2'-4" and the back of the fin aligns with the back of the spandrel as indicated and the spandrel panel is 12" and the face of the column is aligned with the face of spandrel then the fin would project 1'-4". The design intent is that the fins are 7-5/8" thick to respond the thin brick coursing. The design builder of record needs to confirm the engineering requirements for the loads applied and design the fins according.
87	Electric Charging Station Option/RFP	Do they just want to control who can charge at the stations and perhaps charge a fee?	This has not been contemplated. We currently have no charging stations on site. This community does not have charging stations for general public use, consequently there is no requirement.
88	Electric Charging Station Option/RFP	Do they just wish to let anyone charge their vehicle and eat the electricity cost.	This has not been contemplated. We currently have no charging stations on site. This community does not have charging stations for general public use, consequently there is no requirement.
89	Electric Charging Station Option/RFP	We need to know if the stations are to be mounted on a wall, floor, or posts.	This has not be determined.
90	Electric Charging Station Option/RFP	If the stations are to be networked we need to know if there is cell phone coverage in the garage and if the charging stations will all be co-located within 100' unobstructed line of sight of each other, or if they will be scattered around the parking garage.	Stations will be collocated.
91	Electric Charging Station Option/RFP	What is the expected delivery time frame from placement of order? What is the payment timeframe from delivery? Is there a holdback?	Award of construction contract is expected in late July or early Aug 2013
92		Who owns the utilities (water, natural gas, electric) crossing the proposed parking garage site?	The Hospital owns: communication, electric, natural gas, sanitary sewer, medium pressure steam, storm drainage. The natural gas <u>may</u> be owned by gas company up to the meter at the southeast corner of the Boiler Plant Building 10.
93		What is the size of the water line crossing the site? Is this the main connection to the public water supply for the hospital campus?	8" Cast Iron or Ductile. It is the backup source for water. If something happens to this line the hospital will not have an alternate source for water
94		What size is the gas line crossing the site?	4" diameter gas. There is also an 18" RCP storm drain, 8" sanitary sewer, and ½" water crossing the site.
95		Are there any locations on campus where excess soil can be stockpiled?	NO, however BOD allows spreading the soil over the construction area.
96		Can above grade dry detention ponds be used in lieu of open bottom chamber underground detention?	Substitutions will have to be approved.
97		If detention ponds are not acceptable can a closed underground detention system be used?	Substitutions will have to be approved.
98		Are the storm water detention requirements based on the City of Fayetteville design criteria?	Storm water retention design is based on meeting federal requirements. Refer to the Basis of Design narrative, page 12 of 27.

VA101-13-R-0025, RFI RESPONSES			
Question No.	Reference (Sect/Para/Page)	QUESTION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
99		Sheet CG101 shows structural retaining walls on north, west and south faces. Sheet A0101.A and A0101.B show modular retaining walls in these locations. Which is correct?	Both. It is modular block retaining wall and shall be an engineered system (geo-grid reinforcement and drainage). Refer to the Basis of Design narrative, page 13 of 27.
100		Sheet CG101 shows modular retaining walls on the east face of the building. These retaining walls will be retaining the building pad. Can other types of retaining walls be used in this area?	Modular block is a campus standard. Substitutions will have to be approved.
101		Can other systems be used in lieu of retaining walls on west slope such as tied-back soldier piles and lagging as discussed in geotechnical report?	Modular block is a campus standard. Substitutions will have to be approved.
102		Are the 6 stations to be single connector or dual connector?	For purpose of bid, assume that there are three dual stations for a total of six charging locations. Final coordination by DB contactor during design
103		Will all 6 units be in a cluster of each other or deployed in different locations in the garage? (within 100' of unobstructed line of sight). If this is the case only one station requires the communication module...less expensive. Or will they split up the stations in a group of 3 in two separate locations?	For the purpose of bid, assume that the three dual charging stations will be clustered together in the same location. Final coordination by DB contractor during design
104		Will you be billing drivers to plug-in or give free access?	This has not been contemplated. We currently have no charging stations on site. This community does not have charging stations for general public use, consequently there is no requirement.
105		Which mounting style? Wall, floor or pole? Typically in a garage it is wall unit.	For the purpose of bid, assume that charging stations will be wall mounted. Final coordination by DB contractor during design
106		Do you require EV signs to be mounted in front of the parking spaces? Could be on the wall or on unistrut.	Yes
107		Are the stations to be networked or non-networked? Networked stations will provide the VA with useful data such as how much energy is being dispensed, how much GhG is being prevented, billing, alerts, reservations, unique drivers, etc. Location of a networked stations require cell phone coverage. For underground parking the signal is not as strong. If there is no coverage in the location they want the stations a repeater will be needed to boost the cell phone signal to the location.	The station should be networked.
108	SF 1442; Block 13A	Please consider extending the bid date 7-10 days. With the federal holiday (Memorial Day) being this weekend and with it already being Wednesday and the Amendment containing the RFI answers has not been released, will make it extremely difficult to receive competitive pricing from our subcontractors, vendors/material suppliers. Even if the VA releases the RFI answers today, by the time it gets posted to FBO, Offerors will not receive their notice from FBO until early tomorrow (Thursday) morning. Depending on the Government's responses to the RFI, with potential (and maybe substantial) changes to come, coordination between GC's and Subcontractors will still need to take place. With the federal holiday being on Monday, many of our subcontractors, vendors/material suppliers have stated they will be unavailable Friday too, which leaves only one day (next Tuesday) to complete our pricing portion of the proposal. Some subcontractors and suppliers will decline to bid the project because members of their staff will be out for the holiday and have not had adequate time to review the Government's responses to the RFI, which will reduce availability of competitive pricing, and not allow the best pricing to be	Proposal due date has been extended to June 5, 2013 at 1:00 PM Central Time.